

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2532**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Quirk**

February 21, 2014

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An act to amend Section 679 of the Penal Code, relating to crimes.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2532, as introduced, Quirk. Victims and witnesses of crime.

Existing law states the intent of the Legislature to ensure that all victims and witnesses of crime are treated with dignity, respect, courtesy, and sensitivity, and establishes specified statutory rights of victims and witnesses of crime.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to those provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 679 of the Penal Code is amended to  
2     read:  
3     679. In recognition of the civil and moral duty of victims and  
4     witnesses of crime to fully and voluntarily cooperate with law  
5     enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, and in further recognition  
6     of the continuing importance of this citizen cooperation to state  
7     and local law enforcement efforts and the general effectiveness  
8     and well-being of the criminal justice system of this state, the  
9     Legislature declares its intent, in the enactment of this title, to  
10    ensure that all victims and witnesses of crime are treated with

1 dignity, respect, courtesy, and sensitivity. It is ~~the~~ further *the* intent  
2 that the rights enumerated in Section 679.02 relating to victims  
3 and witnesses of crime are honored and protected by law  
4 enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and judges in a manner no less  
5 vigorous than the protections afforded criminal defendants. It is  
6 the intent of the Legislature to add to Section 679.02 references  
7 to new rights ~~as~~ *as*, or as soon ~~after~~ *after*; they are created. The  
8 failure to enumerate in that section a right ~~which~~ *that* is enumerated  
9 elsewhere in the law shall not be deemed to diminish the  
10 importance or enforceability of that right.

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